

***Pseudolamprosis* (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Alticinae):**DISTRIBUTION AND SYNONYMY¹

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In their paper on distributional and ecological notes on *Distigmoptera* and *Pseudolamprosis*, Balsbaugh and Kirk (1968) indicated a comparatively large range extension for *Pseudolamprosis guttata* (LeConte), i.e. from Louisiana and Alabama to South Carolina. However, these observations subsequently appear less significant since it has been learned that this very rare species also occurs in South America.

Because the illustration of *Distigmoptera darwini* Scherer (1964) did not appear to represent a true *Distigmoptera*, the author indicated this opinion to Dr. Gerhard Scherer, Museum G. Frey, Tutzing, Germany, who then very graciously loaned him a paratype of *D. darwini*. The paratype is indeed a rare specimen, having been collected by Charles Darwin while on his "Voyage of the Beagle" at Maldonado, Uruguay. To the author's amazement, this specimen (fig. 1) appeared to be conspecific with none other than the rare species *Pseudolamprosis guttata* of southeastern North America (fig. 2).

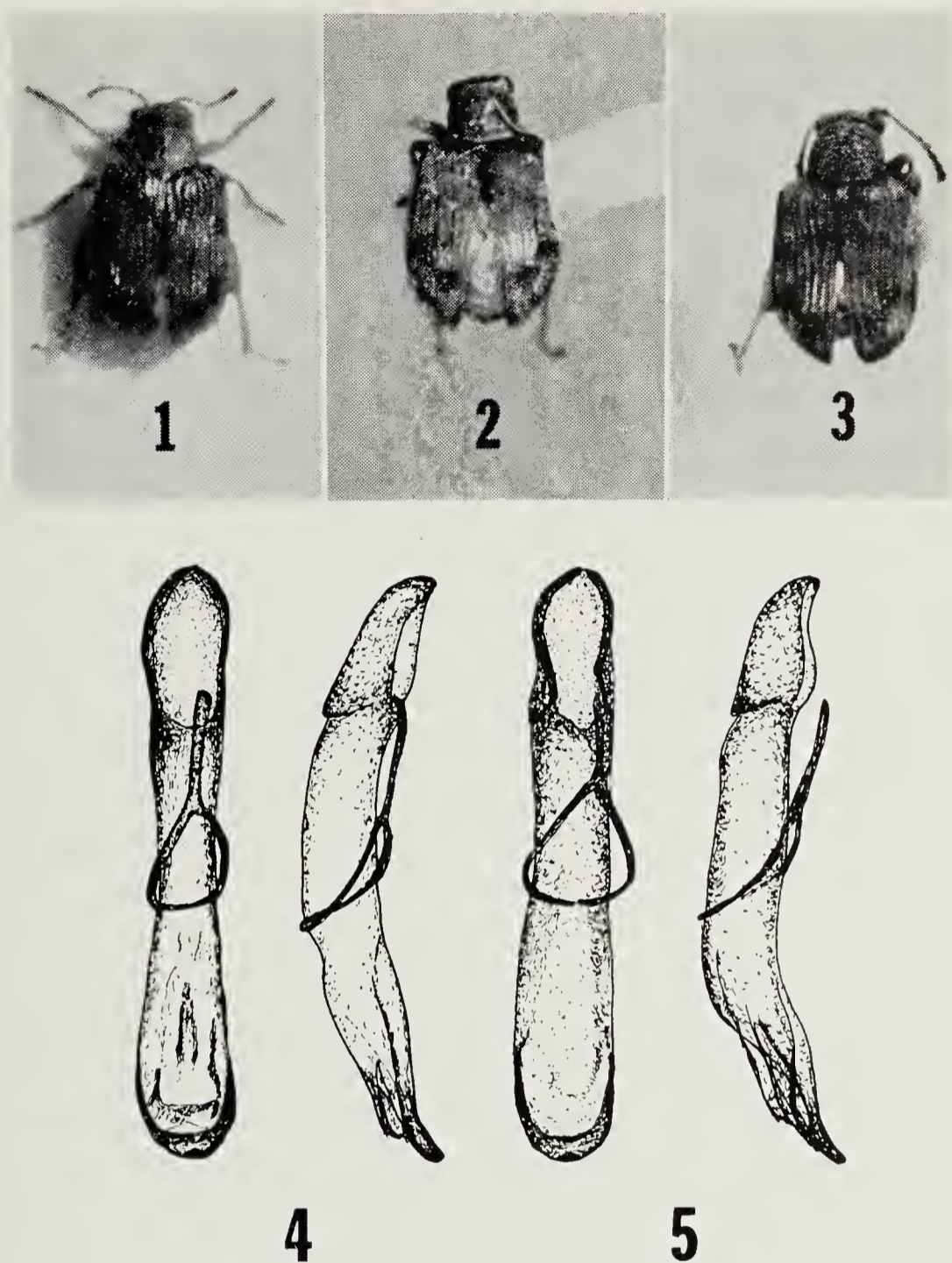
A specimen of *P. guttata*, from Florence, South Carolina, was sent to Scherer when the paratype of *D. darwini* was returned to him. When he saw the Florence specimen Scherer² agreed that *Distigmoptera darwini* was conspecific with *Pseudolamprosis guttata*. After making this comparison Scherer sent to the author 14 undetermined flea beetle specimens from Mato Grosso, Rio Caraguanatá, Brazil, collected by Plaumann, March, 1953. These specimens (fig. 3), Scherer felt, now that he had seen the Florence example of this species, were also probably *P. guttata*. Earlier, Scherer (1962) had stated that these Mato Grosso specimens were probably undescribed. Mrs. Doris Blake, U. S. National Museum, had indicated this to Scherer as her opinion after she examined two examples of the Mato Grosso series sent to her in 1962.³

The author agrees with Scherer's recent conclusion that these Brazilian beetles are indeed *P. guttata*. A comparison of the male aedeagus (figs. 4 and 5) collaborates this conclusion. Therefore *P. guttata* is now known from two localities in South America (Maldonado, Uruguay, and Mato Grosso, Brazil), in addition to Louisiana, Alabama, and South Carolina, in North America. These recent findings bear out Blake's (1943) hypothesis that *P. guttata* "... is possibly a subtropical beetle belonging to a group found more commonly in the tropics."

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²Personal communication. Letter from Dr. G. Scherer to the author. November 13, 1968.

³*Ibid.*



Figures 1-5. 1. Paratype of *Distigmoptera darwini* Scherer, Maldonado, Uruguay. 2. *Pseudolamprosis guttata* (LeConte), Poinsett State Park, South Carolina. 3. *Pseudolamprosis guttata* (LeConte), Mato Grosso, Rio Caraguanatã, Brazil. 4. Aedeagus of *Pseudolamprosis guttata* (LeConte), Mato Grosso, Rio Caraguanatã, Brazil. 5. Aedeagus of *Pseudolamprosis guttata* (LeConte), Poinsett State Park, South Carolina.

The synonymy of this species is as follows:

***Pseudolamprosis guttata* (LeConte, 1884)**

Hypolamprosis guttatus LeConte, 1884.

Pseudolamprosis guttata (LeConte), Horn, 1889.

Distigmoptera darwini Scherer, 1964, NEW SYNONYMY.

Although LeConte's (1884) description of *P. guttata* is brief, it is nevertheless accurate enough to allow ready identification of the species. Horn (1889) gave quite a complete description, so that further elaboration is really unnecessary. However, comments on the specimens at hand are appropriate. Of the 14 specimens from Mato Grosso, Brazil, 13 are females. These range in total length from 2.3—2.6 mm, averaging 2.48 mm. They also tend to have the

elytral disc deep reddish brown or piceous and clothed with fine fulvous pubescence. The single male (fig. 3) measures 2.2 mm in total length and has the elytral disc fulvous in color. The specimens from South Carolina are from the two localities previously cited by Balsbaugh and Kirk (1968), viz. Florence and Poinsett State Park. In these two series there are three males and six females. The males are smaller, measuring 2.2 or 2.3 mm in total length. They also are lighter in color than the females. The six females in total length range from 2.4—2.5 mm, averaging 2.46 mm. These have a darker elytral disc. As Horn (1889) indicated, the broadly emarginate last ventral abdominal segment serves to distinguish the male.

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Book Review

- SCHEDL, KARL E., 1966, Check List of the Scolytidae and Platypodidae from the Philippine Islands. Entomologische Abhandlungen, Staatlichen Museum für Tierkunde in Dresden. Bd. 35, No. 1, 122pp.

A list of 228 species of Scolytidae and 63 species of Platypodidae. For each species is given a reference to the original description, the location of the types, the type locality, synonymy, Philippine distribution and host data in detail, and generalized world distribution. The check list concludes with a taxonomic list of Philippine host trees with the Scolytidae and Platypodidae recorded from each. There is a systematic index of valid species by genera and an alphabetical list of generic and species names.—M. HATCH.